



Ready Reference at the Kiplinger Research Library

Building Permit Database

For properties constructed between 1877 and 1949, it *should* have a recorded building permit. Detailing a variety of information, the permit is akin to the “birth certificate” of a house and is an important document to have. Give the address to any librarian on duty to receive a printout of the data. This information will lead you to the correct box of microfilm, available through DCPL’s microfilm holdings.

Alternatively, visit HistoryQuest DC (<https://planning.dc.gov/page/historyquest-dc>) to view the same data for over 127,000 *extant* buildings in DC. This site was produced by the D.C. Historic Preservation Office.

City Directories

City directories for Washington, D.C. were published most years between 1822 – 1973. Starting in 1914, street addresses can be looked up which will list the head of household. City directories are available on microfilm through either DCPL or HSW.

For a complete listing of city directories, telephone books, yellow pages, etc, see Appendix 1. To request microfilm from HSW, please fill out the microfilm call slip available on the study tables and give it to the librarian.

Microfilm

Microfilm resources are available as from both DCPL and HSW. See Appendix 2 for a complete listing of material.

To request microfilm from HSW, please fill out the microfilm call slip available on the study tables and give it to the librarian.

To request microfilm from DCPL, refer to Appendix 2. Most DCPL microfilm is self-service. Please ask the DCPL librarian for any reels that are not in the cabinets.

Real Estate Atlases

These atlases are structure-level surveys of the District of Columbia. They are arranged geographically in four volumes with multiple editions per volume. Reviewing real estate atlases chronologically can help determine approximate date of building

construction and track neighborhood development through time as well as identifying street address, square and lot numbers, and subdivision name.

Holdings of these atlases and other like them include: the Boschke maps; Faetz and Pratt; Hopkins; Baist, and Sanborn atlases. For a complete listing of maps available, see Appendix 3.

Vertical Files

Vertical files are a collection of newspaper clippings arranged by subject.

DCPL vertical files are arranged by subject. A subject index is available online at <https://www.dclibrary.org/node/43029> and in the reading room. Please request subject files from the DCPL librarian.

Washington History Journals

Since its founding in 1894, the Historical Society has published books, scholarly journals, and other content about the people and events in the city's past and present.

Between 1897 and 1988, the Historical Society published *Records of the Columbia Historical Society*. Its successor, *Washington History*, published bi-annually, is the only scholarly journal devoted exclusively to the history of our nation's capital.

The full archives of this journal are available in the Interim Reading Room and on JSTOR. A list of the table of contents for all volumes is available on our website at <http://www.dchistory.org/publications/washington-history/>. To search by subject or keyword, use JSTOR.

Off-site digital access is also available to members of the Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Ready Reference Bookshelf

In the Interim Reading Room are two bays of self-service HSW material. On these shelves are the John P. Wymer Photograph Collection (SP 0052), photocopies of HSW's General Photograph Collection, genealogy reference books, *Records of the Columbia Historical Society* and *Washington History*, and general reference books on D.C. history.

See Appendix 4 for more information on the available resources.



Ready Reference Appendix 1 - City Directories -

City directories for Washington, D.C. were published most years between 1822 – 1973. Starting in 1914, street addresses can be looked up which will list the head of household. City directories are available on microfilm through either DCPL or HSW.

For a complete listing of city directories, see below. To request microfilm from HSW, please fill out the microfilm call slip available on the study tables and give it to the librarian.

DCPL – City Directory Microfilm Resources – Self Service

Microfilm Type	Title	Coverage
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1822-1860
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1862-1932

HSW - City Directory Microfilm Resources – By Request

Microfilm Type	Title	Coverage
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1862-1871
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1872-1901
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1942-1973



Ready Reference Appendix 2 - Microfilm -

Microfilm resources are available as from both DCPL and HSW. See below for a complete listing of material.

To request microfilm from HSW, please fill out the microfilm call slip available on the study tables and give it to the librarian.

To use microfilm from DCPL, please help yourself to the cabinets next to the microfilm readers. Ask the librarian for any reels that are not in the cabinets.

DCPL – Microfilm Resources – Self Service

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS	
Afro-American, The [Baltimore, Capitol, Washington editions]	1893-1998
American Centennial Newspaper Project (District of Columbia) o The Capital (July 9, 1876) o The Daily Critic (July 5, 1876) o Forney's Sunday Chronicle (July 9, 1876) o National Republican (July 6, 1876) o Post Office Gazette (July 1876) o The Evening Star (July 5, 1876) o The Sunday Herald (July 9, 1876) o Der VolksTribun (July 8, 1876) o Washington Chronicle (July 6, 1876) o Washington Sentinel (July 1, 1876)	1876
Bookland & Woodbridge Guide	1932-1944
Colored American, The	1898-1904
Congressional Globe	1833-1873
Constitution, The	1859-1861
Critic, The	1868-1891
Courier	1912
Daily Constitutional Union	1863-1867
Daily Federal Republican	1814-1816
Daily Morning Chronicle	1862-1877

Daily National Journal	1824-1831
Daily Patriot, The	1870-1872
Daily Union	1845-1859
Evening Star, The	1852-1981
Globe, The	1830-1843
Grit, The	1883-1884
Independent American	1809-1810
Madisonian	1837-1845
Metropolitan (with Courier)	1820
Metropolitan Washington Board of Trade News	1946-1984
National Era	1847-1860
National Intelligencer	1800-1869
National Republican	1860-1888
New National Era	1870-1874
Olio	1802-1803
Peoples Advocate	1876-1886
Petworth Citizen	1916-1918
Rhode Island Avenue Press	1929-1936
Seer, The	1853-1854
Senator (with Courier)	1814
Stars & Stripes	1934-1935
Suburban Citizen	1900-1902
United States Telegraph	1826-1837
Washington Bee	1882-1922
Washington Blade - GLBT Newspaper	1969-1995
Washington Business Journal	1982-1998
Washington Chronicle	1875-1879
Washington City Paper	1983-2010
Washington Daily News	1921-1972
Washington Federalist	1801-1809
Washington Gazette	1796-1798
Washington Gazette	1817-1826
Washington Herald	1906-1939
Washington Informer	1973-1995
Washington New Observer	1992-1993
Washington Post	1877-2011
Washington Sentinel	1873-1901
Washington Sun	1914-1915
Washington Times	1982-2011
Washington Times (Old) Evening Edition	1895-1939
Washington Times (Old) Morning Edition	1894-1902

Washington Times Herald	1939-1954
Washington Tribune	1921-1935
Washingtonian Magazine	1965-1996
BUILDING PERMITS	
DC Building Permits	1884-1950
DIRECTORIES	
Assessments	1874-2010
DC City Directories	1822-1860
DC City Directories	1862-1932

DCPL – Microfilm Resources – By Request

Type	Coverage
DC City Directories	1933-1973
Haines Directories	1974-1999
Washington Telephone Directories	1904, 1907-1950
Washington Metropolitan Telephone Directories	1933-1975
Phonefiche	1976-2005
MAPS	
Baist	1903-1968
Sanborn	1888-1950

HSW – Microfilm Resources – By Request

MICROFILM TYPE	TITLE	COVERAGE
Census	US Census (Baltimore & MD Counties, ED199)	1860
Census	US Census (District of Columbia)	1850
Census	US Census (District of Columbia)	1860
Census	US Census (District of Columbia)	1870
Census	US Census (District of Columbia)	1900
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Acts of the Corporation of the City of Washington	1803 – 1864
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Acts/Legislative Assembly	1871 – 1872

MICROFILM TYPE	TITLE	COVERAGE
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	DC Code	1940
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	District of Columbia Codes of Laws	1818 - 1939
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the Council of the City of Washington	1864 - 1866
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the Council of the City of Washington	1867 - 1868
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the Council of the City of Washington	1869
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the Council of the City of Washington	1870
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the Council of the City of Washington	1871
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the Council of the District of Columbia	1873 - 1874
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Journal of the House of Delegates	1871 - 1872
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Laws of the Corporation of the Town of Alexandria	1844
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Laws of the District of Columbia	1830
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Laws Related to (1) Canals and Steam Railroads, (2) Railroad Companies, & (3) Street Railway Franchises	(1) 1802-1903; (2) 1897; (3) 1905
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Ordinances of the Corporation of Georgetown	1811 - 1846 (?)
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Ordinances of the Corporation of Georgetown	1842 - 1871 (?)
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Ordinances of the Corporation of Georgetown	1865 - 1871
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Pechin, Maurice. Laws of the 65 th , 66 th , 67 th , and 68 th Councils of the City of Washington	65 th , 66 th , 67 th , and 68 th councils (1886)
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Rules of Order	1855
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	Slavery Code of the District of Columbia	1862

MICROFILM TYPE	TITLE	COVERAGE
DC Legislative and Legal Documents	DCLA Minutes and Miscellaneous Items	
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	Vol. III, Washington in Embryo
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	1883 (1873-1888)
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	1886-1887 vol. I, II
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1889-1890, vol. I, II
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	1893-1894, vol. I, II, III
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	1899-1900, 1898 map
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	1902-1903, vol. I, II
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1908-1909, vol. I, II, III, IV
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1917-1918
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1921-1922
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1923-1924, vol. I, II, III
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1923-1934, vol. IV
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1925-1926, vol. I, II
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1925-1926, vol. III, IV and 1927-1928, vol. I
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1927-1928, vol. II, III, IV
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1928-1929, vol. I, II, III
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1928-1929, vol. IV and 1929-1930, vol. I, II

MICROFILM TYPE	TITLE	COVERAGE
Directories and Assessments	Assessments	1929-1930, vol. III, IV and 1930-1931, vol. I
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1930-1931, vol. II, III, IV
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1931-1932, vol. I, II, III
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1931-1932, vol. IV and 1932-1933, vol. I, II
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1932-1933, vol. III, IV and 1933-1934, vol. I
Directories and Assessments	Assessment	1933-1934, vol. II, III, IV
Directories and Assessments	Assessments - Faehz & Pratt Atlas	1874, vol. I, II
Directories and Assessments	Assessments Supplementary Document, Hopkins	1887
Directories and Assessments	Assessment Supplementary Documents	nd
Directories and Assessments	Assessment Directories	1874-2010
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1862-1871
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1872-1901
Directories and Assessments	City Directories	1942-1973
Directories and Assessments	Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company Land Records (also available on CD), squares 0001-6278, not inclusive	1791-1919
Directories and Assessments	D.C. Real Estate Assessment Directory	1935-1948
Directories and Assessments	DC Telephone Directories	1904-1958

MICROFILM TYPE	TITLE	COVERAGE
Directories and Assessments	DC Telephone Directories - C&P Telephone Directory	1904
Directories and Assessments	DC Telephone Directories - Polk Telephone Directory	1913
Directories and Assessments	Washington, D.C. Library Lappin's Club Book of Washington	1983-1894
Directories and Assessments	Washingtoniana Elite List	1888-1910
Directories and Assessments	Washingtoniana Elite List	1901-1910
Directories and Assessments	Who's Who in the Nation's Capital	1921/22-1926/27
Directories and Assessments	Who's Who in the Nation's Capital	1929/30-1934/35
Directories and Assessments	Who's Who in the Nation's Capital	1938/39
Manuscript Collections	E. Dodd's Account Ledger (MS 0100)	
Manuscript Collections	E.F. French Baseball Scrapbook (MS 0549)	
Manuscript Collections	Georgetown Presbyterian Church Records	
Manuscript Collections	National Capital Housing Authority Scrapbook	
Manuscript Collections	Mt. Pleasant scrapbook (MS 0547)	
Manuscript Collections	Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings of DC Residence Sales	1919-1953
Manuscript Collections	Washington DC Motorists and Auto Owners, Compiled by Bill DeCosta	1896 - 1910
Manuscript Collections	Hobo's and Tramps (MS 0798)	
Monographs/Bibliographies	Bryan / Bibliography of the District of Columbia	
Monographs/Bibliographies	History of the Nation's Capital	
Monographs/Bibliographies	Peet's / On the Art of Designing Cities	

MICROFILM TYPE	TITLE	COVERAGE
Monographs/Bibliographies	Registers of Freedom	1837-1839
Monographs/Bibliographies	Washington Past and Present: A History	Vols I & II
Monographs/Bibliographies	Washington Past and Present: A History	Vols III & IV
Monographs/Bibliographies	Washington Past and Present: A History	Vol 5
Monographs/Bibliographies	Washington, D.C. Library Old Washington	1918
Monographs/Bibliographies	Barclay Jones, <u>Urban Economy</u>	nd
Monographs/Bibliographies	David Brown, <u>Diary of a Soldier</u>	nd
Monographs/Bibliographies	Dean, <u>Location of Economic Activity</u>	nd
Monographs/Bibliographies	Bladensburg, Maryland Record Book	nd
Monographs/Bibliographies	J.P. Radford, <u>Patterns of White/Non-White Residential Segregation in DC in the Late 19th Century</u>	nd
Newspapers	Common Denominator	1998-2006
Newspapers	DC Gazette	1969-1980
Newspapers	Georgetown	1954-1991
Newspapers	Abstracts of Marriage and Death Notices from the <i>National Intelligencer</i>	1800 - 1850
Newspapers	National Intelligencer & Washington Advertiser	1804-1806
Newspapers	National Intelligencer	1841-1842
Newspapers	Washington Journal German Language Newspaper	1995-1999
Newspapers	Washington Life	1903 - 1905
Newspapers	Washington Paper	1996
Periodicals and Journals	Records of the Columbia Historical Society and Indexes	1894 - 1989



Ready Reference Appendix 3 - Real Estate Atlases -

These atlases are structure-level surveys of the District of Columbia. They are arranged geographically in volumes with multiple editions per volume. Reviewing real estate atlases chronologically can help determine approximate date of building construction and track neighborhood development through time as well as identifying street address, square and lot numbers, and subdivision name.

Holdings of these atlases and other like them include: the Boschke maps; Faetz and Pratt; Hopkins; Baist, and Sanborn atlases. For a complete listing of maps available, see below.

Atlases available as self-service

Publisher	Volume	Year
Baist	1	1903
Baist	1	1913
Baist	1	1924
Baist	1	1932
Baist	1	1939
Baist	1	1948
Baist	1	1957
Baist	1	1960

Publisher	Volume	Year
Baist	2	1903
Baist	2	1915
Baist	2	1921
Baist	2	1932
Baist	2	1938
Baist	2	1946
Baist	2	1967

Atlases available as self-service

Publisher	Volume	Year
Baist	3	1903
Baist	3	1907
Baist	3	1915
Baist	3	1919
Baist	3	1925
Baist	3	1930
Baist	3	1931
Baist	3	1937
Baist	3	1945
Baist	3	1954
Baist	3	1960
Baist	3	1968

Publisher	Volume	Year
Hopkins	1	1892
Hopkins	2	1893
Hopkins	3 supplement	1896
Hopkins	n/a	1887
Hopkins	3	1894

HSW - Atlases Available By Request

Publisher	Volume	Year
Faetz & Pratt	1	1874
Faetz & Pratt	2	1874
Faetz & Pratt	3	1874

Publisher	Volume	Year
Sanborn	5	1927
Sanborn	6	1927
Sanborn	7	1927
Sanborn	8	1927
Sanborn	9	1927
Sanborn	10	1927
Sanborn	1	1928
Sanborn	2	1928
Sanborn	3	1928
Sanborn	4	1928



Ready Reference Appendix 4 - Ready Reference Bookshelf -

In the Interim Reading Room is a two bays of self-service HSW material. On these shelves are the John P. Wymer Photograph Collection (SP 0052), photocopies of HSW's General Photograph Collection, general reference books on D.C. history, *Records of the Columbia Historical Society* and *Washington History*, and genealogy reference books.

See below for more information on the available resources.

John P. Wymer Photograph Collection (SP 0052)

The John P. Wymer Photograph Collection consists of about 4,000 images of Washington, D.C. taken between 1948 and 1952. Wymer divided the city into 57 areas and systematically photographed the streetscapes of the District's neighborhoods – capturing houses, churches, office buildings, parks, bridges, roads, and businesses.

Use the white binders located along the top to view Wymer's photographs, maps, and area descriptions. To view the Wymer collection digitally, go to www.WymersDC.com.

General Photograph Collection (CHS)

HSW's General Photograph Collection has over 16,000 photographs! To quickly view these images, use the online catalog (<http://dchistory.pastperfectonline.com/>), then use the corresponding binder to see a photocopy. Originals may be requested by prior appointment.

D.C. History Reference Books

This shelf includes many seminal folios on D.C. history specifically on the built environment of Washington, D.C. These books are a great introduction to the District of Columbia.

Records of the Columbia Historical Society & Washington History

Since its founding in 1894, the Historical Society has published books, scholarly journals, and other content about the people and events in the city's past and present.

Between 1897 and 1988, the Historical Society published *Records of the Columbia Historical Society*. Its successor, *Washington History*, published bi-annually, is the only scholarly journal devoted exclusively to the history of our nation's capital.

The full archives of this journal are available in this section and on JSTOR. A list of the table of contents for all volumes is available on our website at <http://www.dchistory.org/publications/washington-history/>. To search by subject or keyword, use JSTOR.

Off-site digital access is also available to members of the Historical Society of Washington, D.C

Genealogy Reference Books

This section contains only selected genealogy reference materials. To see a full listing of our genealogical materials, please use our online catalog (<http://dchistory.pastperfectonline.com/>).

General Guides to Records

Land Records

Original Land Owners 1791-1800
Index to Land Record 1792-1817
Index to Estates 1802-1929

African American Records

Freedom and Slavery Documents in DC Vol 1-3
Free Negro Registers 1821-1861
Blacks in the Marriage Records of DC 1811-1870 Vol 1 & 2

DC Marriage and Death Records

Marriages and Deaths 1800-1820
Daily National Intelligencer Marriages and Deaths 1851-1854
Marriage Licenses 1811-1885
Marriage Records 1892-1900
Death Records Aug 1874-July 1879
Foreign Deaths 1888-1923
Burial Ledger of St. Elizabeth's Hospital 1917-1983

Wills

Probate Records 1801-1852
Index to Wills 1801-1950

Miscellaneous Records

DC Orphan's Court Records 1801-1808
Guardianship Index 1802-1928
Indentures of Apprenticeship 1801-1893
DC Internments Index to Deaths Jan 1855-July 1874
DC Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers 1818-1864
Georgetown 1850 Census, Schedule 1 and 1853 Directory
Georgetown Courier Marriage and Death Notices 1865-1876